## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

## DISTRICT OF NEVADA

Kevin James Wiltz,

Plaintiff

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Kristin Lynn Wiltz,

Defendant

Case No.: 2:21-cv-00569-JAD-DJA

Order Remanding Divorce Action Back to **State Court & Closing Case** 

Kristin Lynn Wiltz removed her husband's complaint for divorce from Nevada state family court to this federal court, claiming that this court has "[o]riginal [j]urisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1331, and is [a case that] may be removed to this court by defendant pursuant to the provisions of 28 U.S.C. § 1441(b) in that it arises under a treaty of the United States, commonly  $11\parallel$ 12 referred to as Treaty of Greenville." After reviewing that filing, this court ordered Mrs. Wiltz to 13 show cause in writing by June 18, 2021, why this marriage-dissolution action should not be 14 remanded back to state court for improper removal and lack of subject-matter jurisdiction.<sup>2</sup> She 15 was warned that her failure to show such cause by the court-ordered deadline would result in this 16 case being remanded without further prior notice. That deadline passed without response or a request to extend the deadline to file one.

28 U.S.C. § 1441(a) authorizes defendants to remove to federal court "any civil action brought in a State court of which the [U.S. District Courts] have original jurisdiction . . . . " But "[f]ederal courts are courts of limited jurisdiction." So a defendant seeking removal jurisdiction

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> ECF No. 1-1 at 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> ECF No. 13.

 $<sup>^3</sup>$  *Id*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Kokkonen v. Guardian Life Ins. Co. of Am., 511 U.S. 375, 377 (1994).

"always have the burden of establishing that removal is proper." This is a heavy burden to carry because there is a "strong presumption against removal jurisdiction[,]" the removal statute is "strictly construe[d] against removal jurisdiction[,]" and "[f]ederal jurisdiction must be rejected 4 if there is any doubt as to the right of removal in the first instance." Because Mrs. Wiltz has 5 failed to carry her burden to demonstrate that removal jurisdiction is proper, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Clerk of Court is directed to **REMAND this case** 6 back to the Eighth Judicial District Court, Family Division, Case No. D-19-592576-D, Department C, and CLOSE THIS CASE. 9 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all pending motions [ECF Nos. 10, 11, 14, 15, 16] are **DENIED** as moot. 11 Dated: June 22, 2021 12 U.S. District Judge Jennifer A. Dorsey 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 <sup>5</sup> Gaus v. Miles, Inc., 980 F.2d 564, 566 (9th Cir. 1992). <sup>6</sup> *Id*.